

Appl. No. 09/918,223  
Atty. Docket No. 7496RC  
Amdt. dated November 17, 2004  
Reply to Office Action of September 13, 2004  
Customer No. 27752

REMARKSClaim Status

Claims 2 – 5, 10 – 13, and 15 – 19 are pending in the present application. Claims 4, 5, 10, and 17 – 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 2, 3, 11 – 13, 15 and 16 have been objected to but would stand allowed if rewritten in independent form. Claims 4, 5, 10, and 17 – 19 have been canceled without prejudice. The rejection, therefore, has been rendered moot. Claims 2, 11 – 13, and 15 – 16 are amended to place them in conformity with the conditions for allowance as noted in the Final Office Action.

Conclusion

In light of the above remarks, it is requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103. Early and favorable action in the case is respectfully requested.

This response represents an earnest effort to place the application in proper form and to distinguish the invention as now claimed from the applied references. In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of this application, entry of the amendments presented herein, and allowance of Claims 2, 3, 11 – 13 and 15 – 16 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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